

Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 NEA-14 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 OMB-01 SAJ-01 ACDA-19

DRC-01 /135 W

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O P 011020Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4370

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

CINCUSAFE PRIORITY

USDOCOSOUTH PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY

CINCUSAREUR PRIORITY

DIA (DIA-5) WASHDC PRIORITY

COMSIXTHFLT PRIORITY

AMCONSUL ADANA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL PRIORITY

RUF

HAA/AMCONSUL IZMIR PRIORITY 4895

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 4225

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TU, GR

SUBJ: GREEK/TURKISH AEGEAN DISPUTE

REF: (A) ANKARA 4219 (B) FBIS KYRENIA 311633Z (NOTAL)

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1. TURK OFFICIALS AND PRESS CONTINUE TO PLAY DOWN DISPUTE WITH

GREECE OVER AEGEAN AND EXPLORATORY ACTIVITIES BY SHIP "CANDARLI". PRIMIN ECEVIT, IN RESPONSE TO JOURNALISTS' QUESTIONS ON MAY 31, SAID THAT VESSEL WAS PERFORMING ITS TASK, BUT THERE WAS NO SITUATION TO CAUSE WORRY. NO PROBLEM EXISTED FOR MOMENT BETWEEN TURKEY AND GREECE, HE CONTINUED, AND ATMOSPHERE WAS CALM (REF B).

2. MFA SPOKEMAN AKBIL IN PRESS CONFERENCE ON MAY 31, ALLUDED TO GREEK COMMUNIQUE ON "CANDARLI'S" RESEARCH ACTIVITIES IN SAME GENERAL VEIN AS DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS SOYSAL TO CHARGE ON SAME DAY (REF A). AKBIL DENIED THAT TURK AND GREEK ARMED FORCES WERE ON ALERT, THAT TURK VILLAGES ON GREEK-TURK BORDER WERE BEING EVACUATED, OR THAT US HAD DELIVERED NOTE TO TURKEY ON AEGEAN QUESTION. HE OBSERVED THAT TURK NAVY WOULD START MILITARY EXERCISES TODAY (JUNE 1), BUT SAID THAT GOG HAD BEEN ADVISED A MONTH BEFORE OF THESE EXERCISES AND THAT THEY HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH TURK-GREEK RELATIONS. AKBIL STATED THAT GOT REPLY TO GOG NOTE OF MAY 24 WAS STILL UNDER PREPARATION.

3. DEFMIN ISIK, MEANWHILE, IN INTERVIEW WITH NEWSPAPER BARIS WHICH APPEARED JUNE 1, EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR CONTINUED TURK-GREEK FRIENDSHIP. ISIK CALLED TURK MILITARY EXERCISES IN AEGEAN NORMAL, AND SAID THAT ANY GREEK MILITARY MEASURES ARE PROBABLY FOR INTERNAL REASONS RATHER THAN RELATED TO TURKEY.

4. DAO HAS NO FURTHER REPORTS ON EITHER CONTINUED ALERT OF GOT ARMED FORCES OR ON STANDOWN MEASURES. THEIR TURKISH MILITARY CONTACTS, AS REPORTED EARLIER, ARE GOING OUT OF THEIR WAY TO MAKE MODERATE STATEMENTS.
SPAIN

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Message Attributes

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